Budget deficit swells to P34.6B in July BUSINESS / B1

Merged Lakas heads for split NEWS / A2

1,680 new doctors See full list on Inquirer.net

WORLD / A18
2 more execs quit over typhoon brouhaha in Taiwan

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER



THE CROSS-SHAPED El Shaddai House of Prayer, touted to be the biggest in Asia, rises in Amvel City Subdivision in Parañaque City. A project of El Shaddai founder Bro. Mike Velarde, the church has a floor area of 10,000 square meters and will be unveiled during Velarde's 70th birthday today. At right is the cavernous interior of the church with a seating capacity of 15,000 (SRO capacity, 25,000). JOHN ROMAN



Bro. Mike's ₱1-B church opens today

By Nikko Carbonino Calleja

APART FROM HIS "REAL dream" of becoming president of the Philippines, El Shaddai founder Bro. Mike Velarde wants to leave his followers a cross-shaped church touted to be "the biggest place of worship and prayers in Asia."

With a floor area of one hectare, the El Shaddai House of Prayer stands on a portion of the Velarde-owned Amvel City in Barangay San Dionisio, Parañaque City and will be unveiled to members today, in time for the celebration of Velarde's 70th birthday.

El Shaddai has members now totaling seven million, according to Velarde.

Adorned by chandeliers, the air-conditioned church has a seating capacity of 15,000 people and SRO (standing room only) capacity of 25,000. That

BRO. MIKE'S A11

7 dead in Palawan clashes

Activists storm Palace gates; 20 arrested

By Tina G. Santos and Rem Zamora

THOSE PRICEY DINNERS LEFT A bad taste—and an ooze of blood—in the mouth of student activists yesterday.

Militant youth groups denouncing the Arroyo administration's "excessive" spending, including the costly restaurant meals that she and her party had during a recent visit to the United States, breached Malacañang gates on Wednesday and provoked a brief but violent clash with Palace guards.

Authorities arrested at least 20 protesters out of the estimated 200 students who used side streets to sneak past a police outpost at the historic Mendiola Bridge and staged a lightning rally at Malacañang's Gate 7.

Witnesses said some students emerged bloodied in the mouth upon contact with blocking forces

ACTIVISTS A11



PALACE guards clash with militant students who broke through Malacañang's gates on Wednesday to protest controversial government spending on foreign trips, among other "excesses," amid widespread poverty. At least 20 protesters were arrested, many needing medical attention before they were detained at the Manila police headquarters for illegal assembly. RAFFY LERMA

Gov't troops retake islet from MNLF

By Redempto D. Anda
Inquirer Southern Luzon

BALABAC, PALAWAN—GOVERNMENT troops killed seven Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) members and captured three others in an assault early yesterday on the rebel group that took over the isolated island of Matangguli in Balabac town in southern Palawan.

Fighting at close range erupted near Sitio Mandan at daybreak after most of the inhabitants of the 25-square-kilometer island had evacuated to the mainland village of Bangkalaan and troops from the military's Western Command and the provincial police surrounded the MNLF formations.

A Marine soldier was wounded.

Over 1,200 families, mostly Muslims, from three fishing villages of Balabac have fled to the main village of Bangkalaan and are being taken care of by a medical mission sent by provincial

TROOPS A4

Cheap medicines law registers 90% compliance–DOH

By Dona Pazzibugan in Manila and Vincent Cabreza
Inquirer Northern Luzon

THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (DOH) has ordered some pharmacies and private hospitals to explain why they should not be sanctioned for defying a government-price control on certain essential medicines.

CHEAP A6

CRY OF CATANDUANES

Bicol bishops to seek Pope's help

By Roy M. Nasol and Fernan Gianan
Inquirer Southern Luzon

BISHOPS IN THE BICOL REGION PLAN to enlist the help of Pope Benedict XVI to stop any coal mining operation in Catanduanes, where 7,000 hectares of land had been awarded to Monte Oro Resources & Energy Inc. for exploration and another 8,000 hectares have been set aside by the energy department for coal mining.

Bishop Lucilo Quiambao of the Diocese of Legazpi yesterday said the letter would be different from the one the bishops sent to the Pope last Christmas to ask his support to stop mining operations in the region.

While the bishops are awaiting the response of the Pope, they plan to come up with another letter to the Vatican, this time on coal mining in Catanduanes, according to Quiambao.

BICOL A6

Razon on Senate probe: No comment

By Gil Cabacungan Jr. and TJ Burgonio

BUSINESSMAN ENRIQUE RAZON JR. yesterday declined to comment on calls in the Senate for a probe of the contract awarded to his company, Monte Oro Resources & Energy Inc., for coal mining

RAZON A6

Bulacan uses Filipino in court trials

By Carmela Reyes
Inquirer Central Luzon

CITY OF MALOLOS—IN THIS PART OF the country, everybody speaks Filipino in the courtroom. And it's not because the country is observing Buwan ng Wikang Pambansa (National Language Month) or Linggo ng Wika (Language Week).

For 18 months now, selected courts in Bulacan have been using Filipino during trials and proceedings, not only to reach out to the masses but also to promote the national language, said Regional Trial Court Judge Ma. Resurreccion Ramos-Buhat.

BULACAN A7

No karaoke for you! Bad wiring spells tone-deaf

NEW YORK—DO YOUR FRIENDS COVER their ears when you sing along with the radio? Does the choir director ask you to lip-sync?

If you're one of the unlucky people who is tone-deaf, it turns out your brain

NO KARAOKE A6



Nat'l Artists row reaches SC

By Norman Bordadora

THE TEMPEST OVER PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo's purported disregard of the legally prescribed selection process for National Artists has reached the Supreme Court.

A group of petitioners yesterday sought a temporary restraining order on the conferment of the rank and title of National Artist to National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA) Executive Director Cecille Guidote-Alvarez, architect Francisco Mañosa, fashion designer Jose "Pitoy" Moreno and cartoonist-filmmaker Carlo J. Caparas.

The petitioners—National Artists Virgilio Almario, Benedicto "BenCab" Cabrera, Napoleon Abueva and Arturo Luz, academicians, and members of the Concerned

NAT'L ARTISTS A7

Second FRONTPAGE

Merged Lakas heads for split

By Michael Lim Ubac and TJ Burgonio

TOP LEADERS OF THE RULING LAKAS KAMPI CMD have called an emergency meeting today to prevent Lakas members from bolting the coalition in the face of former President Fidel Ramos' rejection of an offer to become chair emeritus of the merged party.

[illegible]



RAMOS

Lakas divided

[illegible]

'Just a threat'

[illegible]

Case closed: PNP clears 'euro-general'

[illegible]

Philhealth faces bankruptcy in 7 years–Loren

US senator here, meets with GMA

Comelec junks Panlilio petition

Abra ex-gov told: Surrender, or else …





Court rules vs gov't in case of 2 Kokoy firms

By Edson C. Tandoc Jr.

Meralco, PLDT

'Inconsistent'

Cheap medicines law registers 90% compliance, says DOH

[illegible]

Three days to explain

[illegible]

Twenty-one drugs

[illegible]

Licenses

[illegible]

Retrenchment

[illegible]



DUQUE

Conundrum

[illegible]

7 dead in Palawan clashes; gov't troops retake isle





Arrest warrants

Ordinary bandits?

Negotiations fail

Pursuit operations

Bicol bishops to seek Pope's help on their no-coal mining stance

Sense of hopelessness

Provincial Board

Online petition

Razon on Senate probe: No comment of how Monte Oro got contract

Probe to push through

Palace: Shed light, not ink

Illegal

No karaoke for you! Bad wiring spells tone-deaf

The Daily Gospel

Nat'l Artists row reaches Supreme Court

Dialogue planned

Main beef

No explanation given

Illegal, unethical

Bulacan ...

No subjects on Pinoy legal terms

Longer words in Filipino

A lot more fun

Better understanding

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
OPINION

Mountain of gold

EDITORIAL

SHOULD AN IMPOVERISHED COUNTRY LET ITS mineral resources lie buried, forever unused? This fundamental question haunts us again, now that the controversial Monte Oro contract to extract P6.2 billion worth of coal in Catanduanes has hit the headlines. Any large-scale mining enterprise, inevitably, becomes a social issue—it is an extractive process, and done irresponsibly it can yield lasting environmental damage. The people of Catanduanes, together with their bishop, are only right to challenge the contract.

But, with that haunting question ever in mind, we also need to make necessary distinctions. As the landmark Supreme Court decision on the La Bugal-B'Laan Tribal Association case of December 2004 reminded us, the Constitution protects the right of the state, in its own interest, to allow responsible mining. "The Constitution should be read in broad, life-giving strokes. It should not be used to strangulate economic growth or to serve narrow, parochial interests. Rather, it should be construed to grant the President and Congress sufficient discretion and reasonable leeway to enable them to attract foreign investments and expertise, as well as to secure for our people and our posterity the blessings of prosperity and peace."

[illegible]



Lazarus at the gate

VIEWPOINT

Juan L. Mercado

[illegible]

'Teyktu'

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

[illegible]

Bishops should uphold responsible mining

POLITICAL TIDBITS



Belinda Olivares-Cunanan

The big picture

YOUNG BLOOD

Jamina Vesta Jugo

Hidden cameras and Cory's huge suitcase

HUMAN FACE



Ma. Ceres P. Doyo

Official persecution of readers

THE LONG VIEW



Manuel L. Quezon III

IN THE NEWS



Aung San Suu Kyi

Association with Abu Sayyaf Group diminishes MILF

LETTERS





Tipo-Tipo encounter: questions media should have asked

Outside politics Pacman can still help Filipinos

Still the same 30 years after MMR

Also beautify railway vicinities

Bro. Mike's ₱1-B church opens today

Widow's mite

Noah's ark



A LARGE baptismal font is one of the features of the massive El Shaddai church.



"REAL DREAM" Bro. Mike Velarde who turns 70 today really dreams of becoming president.

₱100M in rentals

Plans for 2010

IN THE KNOW

Biggest church in Asia

Activists storm Palace gates; 20 arrested

Over in minutes



"BARBARIANS AT THE GATES" An armed Palace sentry rushes to shut Gate 7. He was eventually outmaneuvered and overpowered by young activists pressing to get in.



"WHAT MAXIMUM TOLERANCE?" Combined forces from Palace security and the Manila police break up an incoming wave of some 200 students.

Rally resumed

"What maximum tolerance?"

Under fire







INSIDE MALACAÑANG Student protesters briefly gain a foothold on Malacañang grounds and confront a member of the Presidential Security Group for taking photos of their forced entry. He loses hold of his camera in the ensuing scuffle, but it is later returned to the PSG—with the rally photos erased.

INQUIRER Southern Luzon

A fusion of art, technology and ecology

THE NINE-FOOT COMPARTMENT of rough wood and glass encloses an ecosystem of plant life, with a technological twin—a computer system with a large CPU (central processing unit) that serves a multiplayer game program, monitors and keyboards.

[illegible]



[illegible]



[illegible]

Case modding

[illegible]

From scratch

[illegible]

Temporal experience

[illegible]

Science, arts

[illegible]



[illegible]

Across the NATION

2,000 families displaced in clan war

COTABATO CITY—AT least 2,000 families displaced by fighting between two Moro rebel factions in Maguindanao are crying for help from the government, officials said.

[illegible]

No advice

[illegible]

Deaths

[illegible]

Fear prevails

[illegible]



VINTAGE

[illegible]

59 gov't rice outlets found overpricing, ordered shut

[illegible]

Negros execs pressed to keep province organic

[illegible]

It's Isabela's turn to fete honor guards

[illegible]

Lim backs Lim in rebel general's bid for Senate

[illegible]



[illegible]

NEWS

4 face raps in ₱1.2-B chopper deal

FOUR OFFICIALS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF National Defense and Philippine Air Force are facing graft charges over the botched P1.2-billion deal to buy new night-capable attack helicopters some two years ago.

Palace: We should be grateful for GMA trips

By Christian V. Esguerra

Overspending

No quorum, no work for solons

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

Aplus METRO

Editor: Abelardo S. Ulanday

DID YOU KNOW

Court junks Gonzalez 'free me' plea

Manila judge says High Court ruling not yet final and executory



QUEZON DAY RITES

By Tina G. Santos



GONZALEZ INQUIRER PHOTO

No pronouncement

Despite plywood cover, 2 lawyers still see red in MMDA footbridges

By Tina G. Santos

Makati folk bid final farewell to Binay's in-law

Gov't kowtowing to MILF

On Target



Donaire gets hero's welcome

MetroBriefs

Praying carpets for Ramadan

Feta for top teachers set

Week-long birthday celebration

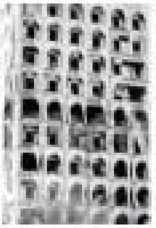
St. Benilde sets fashion show



New cop station in Libis

2 nabbed in posh condo

75 killed in Baghdad bomb carnage



WEDNESDAY'S powerful blast shatters windows of the foreign ministry building.

People slaughtered

Coordinated explosions

More blasts



Faith rites boost brains, even of atheists, says book

'60s baby boomers still high on drugs

WORLDBRIEFS

Bloody eve of Afghan presidential vote

Hurricane Bill now Category 4 storm

Wildfires linked to drug cartel

John Yettaw heads home

Ex-consumer chief found hanged

US political columnist Novak; 78

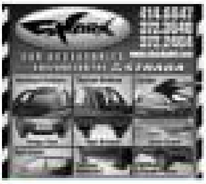
Cannabis may help fight cancer

UFO sightings traced to 'X Files'

Honey, I cheated, and blah blah blah

The WORLD

2 more execs quit over typhoon brouhaha





CHEN

TAIPEI—TAIWAN'S POLITICAL storm surrounding Typhoon "Morakot" gained force on Wednesday as the defense minister and Cabinet secretary offered to resign over the government's slow emergency response.



THE KOREA Space Launch Vehicle-1 sits on its launch pad at the Naro Space Center.

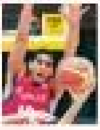
South Korea aborts first rocket launch

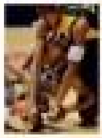
SEOUL—SPACE OFFICIALS ABORTED South Korea's first rocket launch just minutes before liftoff on Wednesday.

SPORTS

WHAT'S INSIDE

■ Smart Gilas will be better, says coach Toroman /A20





■ FEU battles NU; UST, UP face off /A21

Arellano, Letran rip NCAA foes



Nonito: What's the reward for Filipino valor?

BARE EYE

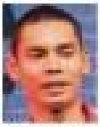
Recah Trinidad



2 ILLAM squads boost World Series bids

Smart Gilas will be better, says coach Toroman


NORWOOD


AGUILAR

FEI nixes Peping's request


COJUANGCO

Unknown Korean tames The Tiger

HEART, SOUL, SPORTS



Tommy Manotoc

Dragons kick off Ucaa title defense



FEU battles NU; UST, UP face off

RP 5 still gets JB backing

IN HUDDLE



Sea Lions aim to extend NCAA rule



SPORTS

8 RP netters march on

By Marc Anthony Reyes

RP golfers falter, trail by 13 strokes in Putra golf



Ong, Millonado top Highlands Cup

IN THIS ISSUE

BUSINESS

Budget deficit swells to ₱34.6B in July

7-month shortfall hits 75% of '09 target

THE GOVERNMENT SPENT ₱34.6 BILLION OVER ITS BUDGET IN July, or already half the programmed deficit of ₱62.5 billion for the third quarter, Finance Secretary Margarito B. Teves said.

3 groups propose wind energy projects

THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY IS CON-

CURRENCIES



STOCK MARKET

Stocks rise on bargain-hunting



PSE to introduce gold trading within the year

Bullion to be kept with BSP

Benpres posts net profit of ₱475M

Anchor Land net income surges 67.3%

Disclosures

Budget deficit swells to ₱34.6B in July

3 firms . . .

Accenture hires back 100 retrenched employees

Kepco to use 'smart grid' in RP

Consulting firm says more to be brought back



PSE to rebid broker's seat

Add more trade partners, RP urged

BIR has new No. 2 man

BIR has new No. 2 man

By Ronnel W. Domingo

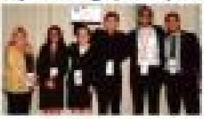
MALACAÑANG HAS CREATED through an executive order the Office of Senior Deputy Commissioner for the Bureau of Internal Revenue, which is tasked to make the agency more competent and give it a better public image.

Finance Secretary Margarito B. Teves yesterday introduced to reporters the newly appointed No. 2 man of the BIR, Joel L. Tan-Torres.

Tan-Torres resigned last March as partner of audit firm SGV and Co. after 13 years with the company.

A certified public accountant

Filipinos fly high with The National University of Singapore (NUS) MBA



LIFESTYLE Food

Where to get the best choco fondue, kefir, 'rendang' ingredients

KITCHEN RESCUE

Reggie Aspiras



I NEED AN EASY-TO-DO AND tried-and-tested chocolate fondue recipe. I was tasked by my Tita to do the chocolate fountain for her son's first birthday. —Mary

Sorry, Mary! I know this reply is way too late. I've published a recipe before but find these more practical.

One of the easiest and most delicious chocolate fondue versions is that of The Sixth Ba...

[illegible]

PAGE C3

GARFIELD



A. LIPIN



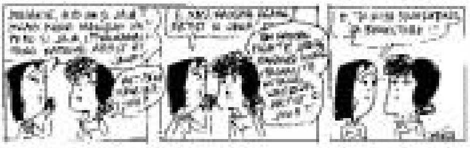
PUGAD BABOY



DICK TRACY



LOVESHOTS



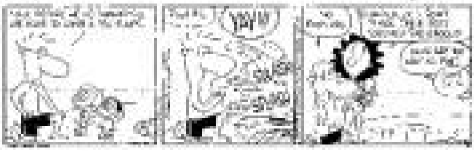
JAMES BOND



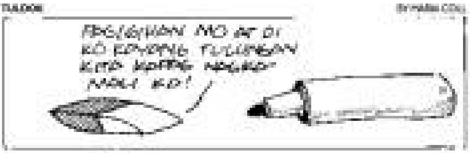
DIVINE COMEDY



BABY BLUES



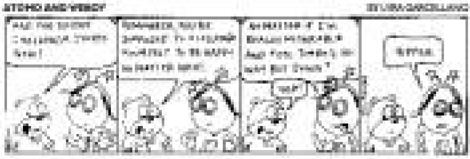
TULDOK



BEN



ATOMO AND WENDY

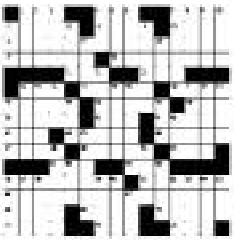


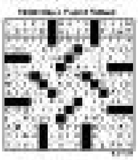
BIKO MACHINE



HOROSCOPE

CROSSWORD PUZZLE





CONCEPTIS SU DOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

9				1				
	2				6	5	9	
		7			8		3	
						9	1	
1				6				4
	7	3						
	8		5			3		
	9	2	4				6	
				9				5

HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

Answer to previous puzzle

Vegetables—not as side dish, but the superstar main course

Why Chiqui Mabanta's corner resto is now the buzz among healthy eaters

Ready



CHIQUI Mabanta opened Corner Tree Café for resident healthy eaters.

Deadly desserts



BAKED Tofu Walnut Burger with sweet potato fries.

Personal favorites

Spaghettini with Broccoli and Pine Nuts

From Corner Tree Café

The Philippines' Best Restaurants 2009 and Taasty.com website launched

Where to get the best choco fondue...

Chocolate fountain

Kefir

'Rendang' ingredients

Lucky Me! family advocacy bags honors at Tambuli Awards



'Pinoy' resto marks 23rd year with Filipino-Asian buffet, raffle promo



PAKO Salad

[illegible]



GATANG Labong

[illegible]

DINING OUT



Juicy ribs with corn

[illegible]

Banana split day

[illegible]

Pancake sandwich

[illegible]



Pacific lobsters

[illegible]

Seafood buffet

[illegible]

Chicken Parmigiana

[illegible]

Entertainment

First in Miss U history

TECHNICAL GLITCHES MADE THE LIVE WEBCAST [illegible] Miss Philippines [illegible]

DID YOU KNOW...

Anna Paquin was 'dying' to do vampire's GF role

CHEER FACTOR

It's a scream

NEW YORK—THIS NEW ALBUM IS A scream—and more. [illegible] compilation of 74 [illegible] New York City [illegible] AP

By Janet Susan R. Nepales

LOS ANGELES—FOR SOMEBODY whose debut performance was as a skunk in a school ballet, Academy Award and Golden Globe winner Anna Paquin has indeed come a long way.

The 27-year-old former child star of "The Piano" [illegible] "The Squid and the Whale" [illegible] "Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee."

[illegible] "True Blood" [illegible]

INQUIRER EXCLUSIVE



Before you took on the role of Sookie, how familiar were you with the vampire world?

I was not familiar with it. [illegible]

[illegible]

"I [illegible]," Anna Paquin [illegible] "True Blood."

1st Star Awards for Music

THE PHILIPPINE Movie Press Club (PMPC) hands out its first Star Awards for Music on Oct. 29 [illegible] Quezon City.

At stake are 32 awards in categories including Album of the Year, Song of the Year, Male, Female, Duo and Group Artists of the Year. There are also separate categories for the Best Pop, Rock, R&B, Alternative, Revival and Compilation Albums.

PMPC consulted music producers, composers and other respected music personalities.

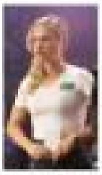
SHOW TIME

Tribute to Aquinos

[illegible]

'New Moon'

[illegible]

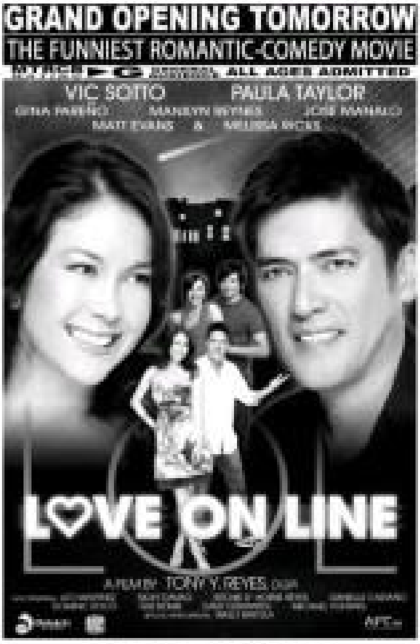


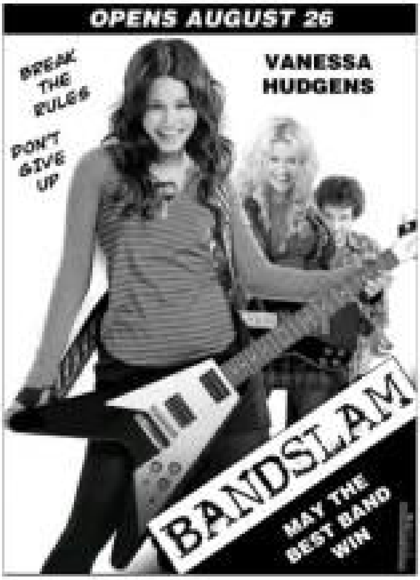
PAQUIN as Sookie

Anna…

[illegible]









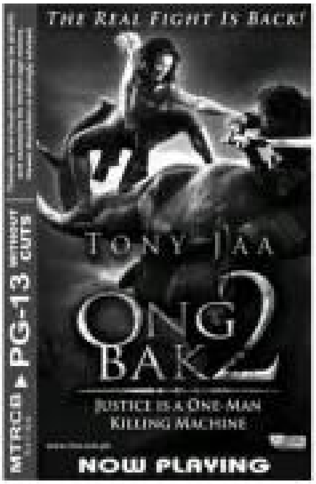




PINOY CANNES WINNER ON CNN 'TALK ASIA'









Hello, Brecht and Weill

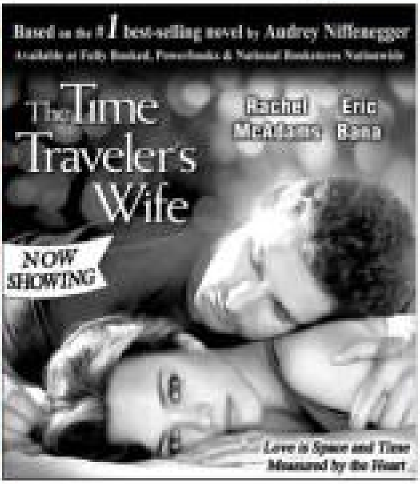
Back Story



Lea Salonga

WorldVision





Indie film actor takes final bow



BENJIE FELIPE